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VOL. IX.—NO. 11.

## OHIO CONVENTION.

### Platform and Resolutions Adopted.

S. T. & L. A. Endorsed.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, May 30.—The Ohio S. L. P. Convention, held in this city on Sunday, May 28, was a grand success and a conceded improvement over all other annual meetings of Ohio Socialists. The Convention was called to order by State Secretary P. C. Christensen, of Cleveland. Robert Bandlow, of the same place, was elected Chairman; Oscar Frier, of Columbus, Secretary, and Israel Hauser, of the later place, Assistant Secretary. There was no attempt at speech-making, which constitutes the bulk of business at conventions of the parties whose incentive is spoils and plundering wage workers. The convention confined itself to the execution of the business before it. The convention for the first time was favored with independent delegates, which is generally recognized as a registration of the growth and impression of any movement, and it is perhaps proper to mention these pioneers in the State convention, which were Miss Watkins, daughter of the late William Watkins; Mrs. Lutz, of Dayton, and Mrs. Emma Ballhaus, of Cincinnati.

There were 41 delegates, many of the smaller places were not represented. About 200 people of the city were in attendance, which is quite a bold showing for this timid and cowardly city in which there is but little consciousness of anything that is fundamental with man's relations as a social being.

#### THE TICKET.

The candidates placed in nomination were:

For Governor:  
**ROBERT BANDLOW,**  
of Cleveland.

For Lieutenant Governor:  
**ELLIS BARTHOLMEW,**  
of Lima.

For Auditor:  
**HARRY LAVIN,**  
of Canton.

For Attorney-General:  
**JOHN COOPER,**  
of Hollister.

For Treasurer:  
**OSCAR FREER,**  
of Columbus.

For Judge of Supreme Court:  
**S. BORTON,**  
of Valley.

For Member of Public Works:  
**C. M. NEWTON,**  
of Warren.

The following platform and resolutions were adopted:

The Socialist Labor Party of Ohio, in convention assembled, hereby re-endorses the platform and principles of the National Socialist Labor Party.

We congratulate the working people of this State upon the undisputed fact that recent events have tended to forever shelve the inconsequential questions of tariff and free silver, with which the political bosses have successfully divided the vote of the laboring people during the past generation by hypocritically pretending to safeguard their interests; and we shall with satisfaction the development of new issues, born of the necessity of the times, that are awakening the people to a full sense of the immense industrial progress that has been made during the last decade without corresponding political progress.

The paramount question before the people to-day are those of the centralization of capital into trusts, and revolutionary labor-saving machinery inseparably linked together by the revelations of science. We call attention to the prediction of the greatest socialist economist of the age, Karl Marx, whose conception of history has stood every test, that complete monopoly would be the logical sequence of the capitalist competitive system. Just as small capitalism half a century ago struggled to secure a monopoly in its village, and later to control the markets of its country and State, so larger capitalism at present—having absorbed the wealth produced by generations of laborers, including the machinery of production and distribution—is at present through consolidation of vast enterprises, mines, workshops, factories, department stores and railroads, securing an absolute monopoly nationally and internationally. The gigantic trusts, of which there are now no less than four hundred in existence, have pronounced the doom of the middle class, and that class is steadily being forced into the ranks of the wage working class, there to compete for employment, and the combines secured against competition by reason of possessing unlimited capital and superior machinery, dictate the wages that shall be received by labor and the prices that shall be paid by the workers as consumers.

The Socialist Labor Party is fully aware that the old party politicians, in order that they may again catch the votes of those who have been stripped of their small capital as well as those who still possess the hallucination that they can become rich and powerful, have started the cry, "Down with the Trusts!" This Party is also aware that since 1890 there has been a national anti-trust law in existence in this country, as well as similar laws in at least a dozen of the States, and that successive Republican and Democratic administrations have refused to en-

force them. The present cry of the politicians is, therefore, hypocritical and demagogical, and meant merely to secure office and gain time. The miserable politicians, who virtually declare, "after me the flood," care little what becomes of the liberties of the people in their craze for the spoils of victory.

The Socialist Labor Party hereby throws down the gauntlet to the corrupt wire-pullers and machine bosses of the old parties and challenges them to show an intelligent people how and by what methods they propose to dissolve trusts. We contend that capitalist combinations are a natural growth of the competitive capitalist system under the rule of the Republican and Democratic parties, and to declare that they can be or must be disrupted is equivalent to declaring that the sun moves backward, that progress is retrogression. Having graduated as ward-heeler and crafted caucuses manipulators, with the spoils of office uppermost in their minds, the politicians are totally ignorant of economic development and social science, and now they place themselves in the unenviable light of pretending to attempt to destroy the corner stone of capitalist independence, viz., "the freedom of contract," the right to combine capital, skill or ability. Against such palpable swindle and dishonest exhibition of knavery we warn the voters of Ohio.

The second great issue is that of municipal ownership, and the Socialist Labor Party plainly and unequivocally opposes the surreptitious scheme of interested capitalists and their politicians in unloading their stolen franchises upon municipalities for millions of dollars to fill their pockets with plunder upon the one side and to strengthen corrupt political machines on the other.

Municipal ownership under the capitalist régime is merely a convenient method of changing masters, of substituting boss rule for corporative rule, of capturing the support of the bankrupt middle class by falsely promising that it will result in lower rates of taxation, of hopelessly enslaving the workers to dictatorial capitalists in office. It is plain, unadulterated State Socialism of the brand endorsed by Kaiser Wilhelm and the Czar of Russia. The bribe-giving franchise-grabbers are to be awarded millions of dollars for something that they do not own, and it is just as reasonable to handily reward a burglar or highwayman for returning stolen property. Under such a system of alleged reform not even the most infinitesimal part of the labor question can be solved, but it will rather become more aggravated.

The Socialist Labor Party is not in the humbugging business, and, therefore, it does not attempt the impossible by promising to disrupt the trusts or purchasing municipal franchises that the people already own. The theory of organizing and combining industry is correct. It is scientific in that useless middlemen and all forms of waste is abolished, and the maximum of benefit is obtained at the minimum of effort. The trust in the business and commercial world holds a relative position to automatic machinery in producing wealth in industrial pursuits. The trusts are not wrong in themselves, but the present PRIVATE OWNERSHIP is wrong.

And, therefore, the Socialist Labor Party declares that it is the duty of all thoughtful and sensible workingmen to repudiate the trap-and-humbug of the old parties of broken promises and organize into a class-conscious, compact labor party, march to the ballot box and take control of the governing powers of municipality, State and Nation, which is the first and most important step in the inauguration of a just and reasonable condition; and the next is, after having secured political control, to take possession of the tools of production and distribution (the land, trusts, machinery, franchises, etc.) and operate them in the interest of the whole people, instead of, as at present, the whole people operating them in the interest of the few.

Resolved, that we hereby declare with emphasis that the issue is, CAPITALISM AND SLAVERY versus SOCIALISM AND FREEDOM, with the Republican, Democratic and Reform parties arrayed on the side of Capitalism, and the Socialist Labor Party standing alone for Socialism and working class interests; and

Resolved, furthermore, that we call upon the dispossessed and exploited wage workers of Ohio to sever all connection with the old parties, join the party of their class that can alone emancipate them and prepare to overthrow at the polls the galling system of wage slavery and substitute therefor the Co-operative Commonwealth in which every worker will be guaranteed the free exercise and full benefit of his faculties multiplied by all the factors of modern civilization.

#### RESOLUTION ON THE S. T. & L. A.

RESOLVED, That the Socialist Labor Party of Ohio endorses the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance for its progressive steps toward the emancipation from wage slavery by going hand in hand with the political labor movement, as well as all other trade unions that recognize the class struggle and endorse the Socialist Labor Party.

#### RESOLUTION ON ACTION OF WESTERN FEDERATION OF MINERS.

Believing the action of the Western Federation of Miners, in annual convention assembled at Salt Lake City, in unanimously declaring in favor of an economic and political programme through which alone the wage working class can come into their full rights—namely, by endorsing the Socialist Labor Party—to be an inspiring

## THE SITUATION IN NEW ENGLAND.

Organizer B. F. Keinard's Bird's-Eye View and Valuable Details.

A few words on the movement in Connecticut and Rhode Island may not be amiss to the comrades elsewhere, who will be encouraged to hear of the great progress made here and be confirmed in rigid adherence to the straight tactics of the S. L. P., which are proving every day more and more successful as they are here put into practice.

These two States are, taken as a whole, the best advanced in clearness of ideas, absence of freaks and in aggressiveness of any State I have seen. As to freaks, I can remember seeing only a poor, lone, "Tepside," and Lord, wasn't it "woozy"? It looked and acted like one of those funny, fuzzy-startled things that one sometimes chased in off a prairie in front of a big fire. I think I also saw somewhere a demoralized Single Taxer, showing up in the increasing blaze of Socialism like a sleepy cockroach crawling blinded by the sun out of an abandoned snake-hole.

#### CONNECTICUT.

Some of our comrades will remember how eagerly the working class of Connecticut listened to Socialism in 1896, when they seemed to eat it. Well, that appetite gets more voracious every day. Everywhere there seems to be a waking up, which has been still further stimulated by the glorious victory in New Britain and the big vote in New Haven.

The comrades elsewhere can get a pointer or two from New Britain. In this place they have knocked the intestines out of the Democratic party and brought blood out of the Reps also, the S. L. P. delegation in the city legislature being equal to the Democratic (which includes hold-overs), and a Rep Ward barely escaping going under. The least part of their success was due to speakers. It was due to their good organization, good attendance at business meetings and general "hustling." They got their literature into the hands of every workingman, they made a house to house canvass and pulled the voters out and so laid the matter on the conscience of a workingman that he had to vote the ticket to feel like a decent man. Another thing: they get all the funds coming to them. They do not rely merely on their own members for contributions. They go to every one who at all sympathizes and more than one dollar was contributed, and not unwillingly either, by people who are not members of the Party. "Go there, and do likewise."

I saw our five comrades installed in office and they drew the class line in a competent and dignified manner the very first night, in spite of the "jollys" and bilious blandishments of the United Dems and Reps. We had here once again illustrated the oneness of the two old parties. The night preceding the meeting of the new Councilmen and Aldermen, the Reps and Dems met in JOINT caucus and fixed up a JOINT slate of officers and committee for the ensuing year. The next night we had the inspiring spectacle of Democrats (good Bryanites "workingmen's friends") lining up solidly with the Republicans in choosing a Republican labor skinner as President of the Council, and in seconding and supporting absolutely, without dissent, every motion introduced by said labor leader. Important offices, like City Attorney, Corporation Counsel, etc., of immense danger to the workers if controlled by capitalists but of immense service to workingmen if controlled by their own class, were put by united Dem and Rep votes into labor skinning hands. The test was again shown strikingly on the matter of the Street Committee, where the Socialist plank of 8 hours a day, \$2 a day and more men employed (and therefore more taxes for property holders), frightened not only the Reps but also the "workingmen's friends," and as a consequence the Socialists were barred clear off said Committee and all their efforts to get on were immediately blocked by one absolutely unanimous Rep-Dem vote.

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The election of our comrades has had a very stimulating effect upon the increase of membership. Comrade Rutherford of Holyoke, tells me of the same result of his election there. The workers are ripe for Socialism everywhere and need only to have it made incarnate in competent S. L. P. officials to get their support.

In Hartford Comrade Patrick and I

## The People.

NEW YORK, JUNE 11, 1899.

PRICE 2 CENTS.

## CT. CONVENTION.

The Ringing Voice of Resolute Men.

Progress all Along the Line.

The Eleventh Annual Convention of the S. L. P., State of Connecticut, was held in Bridgeport, May 30, 1899. Comrade Steigerwald, of New Haven, acted as Chairman; Chas. Patrick, of New Britain, as Assistant; E. Oatley, of New Haven, and A. Moffatt, of Bridgeport, Secretaries.

Thirty-two delegates representing Sections and Branches of 14 towns were present.

The report of the State Committee showed that there were Sections in 14 towns; during the year, 3 new Sections had been formed, namely, West Haven, Branford and New London. Seventy-five mass meetings in 26 different towns of the State were held. About 80,000 leaflets and 65,000 cards were distributed.

The vote at last election was 2,866, against 1,256 of 1896. New Haven, Bridgeport and New Britain made good gains at the town elections, the latter electing 5 candidates to office.

A marked headway is noted in the make-up of the Party membership as regards intelligence and ability. This is mainly due to the policy adopted by our Party organ, THE PEOPLE, in teaching Socialism, explaining the Party's tactics, keeping informed on the good and successful work done by our comrades in this our field of work in America, and the merciless showing up of the work of the labor fakirs and their dupes. The situation being most promising for our cause in the State.

The report of delegates showed a good healthy growth of the Party membership. An ever-growing circulation of the different Party publications, literature being sold in large quantities. Bridgeport, New Haven and New Britain state that attempts are made to train the younger comrades as speakers.

The old pure and simple trades unions, with very few exceptions, are posing only as sick and death benefit societies. There is, however, in many towns a strong under-current which will no doubt in short time bring on top the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance.

The Committee on Constitution and Resolutions recommended for adoption the following resolutions:

ON SLATERSVILLE STRIKE.

That this convention heartily endorse the action of the weavers of the Slattersville mills, R. I., in their action in organizing under the S. T. & L. A., and that we tender them all the support in our power. A collection, taken on the spot, amounted to \$10.25 for the immediate support of the strikers.

ON THE DISTURBANCE RAISED BY THE "VOLKSZEITUNG."

WHEREAS, It is our conviction that the straight and uncompromising policy of the S. L. P. and its organs has been the main source of the Party's continued progress and increasing strength towards its final aims; and

WHEREAS, We recognize that the controversy raised by the "Volkszeitung" against the Party's principles and tactics, is bringing confusion and divisions in to the Party membership and is consequently retarding the growth of our movement; and

WHEREAS, We consider the tax question a mere side issue to which the wage worker must give no heed, as he is not the direct tax payer; whereas, the false assertion by the "Volkszeitung" that the workingman is the tax payer is misleading, and means to play into the hands of the middle class reform parties; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we fully endorse the action of our National Executive Committee and also the policy pursued by our national organs, THE PEOPLE and "Vorwärts," and promise them our utmost support in clearing the field for the Party's progress;

RESOLVED, That we heartily approve and support the resolution passed by our State Committee;

RESOLVED, In order to avoid the results of dissensions raised by the same "Volkszeitung" in 1898, we urgently recommend to the delegates assembled at this State convention to uphold, endorse and approve the stand taken by our State Committee as one deserving approval and commendation.

These resolutions were submitted by the American and the German Sections of Rockville.

After a lengthy discussion upon the questions involved, a vote was taken giving 24 votes for the resolution and 8 against.

ON THE IDAHO OUTRAGES.

RESOLVED, That we Socialists of Connecticut, in convention assembled, condemn the action of General Merriman for the high-handed manner in which he has acted in the Cour d'Alene strike, and his attempt to stifle the spirit of trade unionism among the workers of Idaho; and that we commend the action of the Western Federation of Miners in endorsing the platform and principles of the Socialist Labor Party as being the first step in preventing the recurrence of such outrageous acts in the future.

ON CONSTITUTION.

That Sections with 50 or less members be entitled to 2 delegates at the State conventions, and one additional delegate for each 50 or a majority fraction thereof. These delegates to be

(Continued on page 3)

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## SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888 (Presidential) . . . . .	2,068
In 1890 . . . . .	13,331
In 1892 (Presidential) . . . . .	21,157
In 1894 . . . . .	33,133
In 1896 (Presidential) . . . . .	36,564
In 1898 . . . . .	82,204

We have bailed a few industrial lepers, and we shall bell more before the year is out. The party has in reality cut its wisdom teeth, and the wisdom teeth have cut a few fingers that were where they should not be.

FRANK MACDONALD.

## AN AMERICAN HEIRESS RIOTESS.

The cable dispatches last week brought thrilling news from Paris. A mob, not of the unwashed, but made up of titled Frenchmen, assaulted the President of the Republic at the Auteuil race course. The assault was intended as a demonstration against the decision of the Court of Cassation to annul the verdict against Dreyfus and give him a new trial, it being now established that "he was convicted on three documents, two of which were forgeries, and one of which did not relate to him." The "demonstration" was the last vulgar manifestation of a military-clerical conspiracy almost unparalleled in the history of the criminal classes in power; a conspiracy gone into preparatory to some popular massacre as the sole means to stem the rise of Socialism, and which the Socialists of France took a leading and noble part in uncovering, frustrating and bringing to naught.

The act of leading property-holding Frenchmen indulging in such a demonstration; indulging in a riot in which rotten eggs figured prominently is, indeed, worth while recording, and yet might not have been given space in these columns were it not for a certain circumstance that accompanied the riot.

Among the rioters figured our own Anna, the daughter of Jay Gould, now the Countess of Castellane, who, living in riotous luxury in France on the marrow of American wage slaves, furnished by her conduct a fit counterpart to the conduct of her sister, Miss Helen Gould, in this city.

In this city, Miss Helen Gould is indulging in "judicious distributions," i. e., in "gifts" to the Police. Her sister, in France, is breaking law by joining rioters. Do these two acts conflict? No! They are obverse and reverse of the same medal.

The Goulds, as capitalists, are members of a brigand class, a class that robs the working class of the fruits of its labor; consequently, a class that needs violence and physical force to keep itself in possession of its stolen goods. To bribe Policemen with gifts in New York and to join military-clerical rioters in France is, accordingly, the same thing: they are translations into American and into French of the same idea, the same purpose, the same plan.

## CAPITALIST CHRISTIANITY—MODERN CHAIPHASES.

At this time when the ill-paid and sorely tried textile workers of Slater'sville, R. I., are battling virtually for the rights of man, a clergyman of that place is going the rounds of the men, and the women, too, doing his level best to dishearten the strikers; to induce them to submit to extortion and degradation; to aid the modern class of the Pharisee to grind the faces of the poor more completely. He, servant, as he pretends, of Him who whipped the traders out of His Father's Temple, now goes about whipping, in the interest of the identical traders, their victims into subjection!

Is this Christianity? Yes—capitalist Christianity!

At such times as these, when so numerous are the instances of blasphemers, tricked in the outer trappings of Religion and of Christianity in particular, who are performing the work of Satan; in times as these, when the pulpitiotes of capitalism are seeking to stem the rush and tide of Justice and Peace on Earth, that Socialism heralds, and are doing their despicable work in the name of Christianity, the mind reverts to the words of Marx, uttered in 1845, when surely having just such specimens, as are now rising up, before his eyes, he made, upon the Christianity of such vultures, the following terse observations:

The social principles of Christianity have now had eighteen centuries to develop themselves in and need no further development at the hands of Prussian Reverends or American dittos.

The social principles of Christianity have taunted the slavery of the ancient world,

approved of the serfdom of the middle ages, and will, in emergency also, though somewhat pitifully, excuse the oppression of the proletariat.

The social principles of Christianity preach the necessity of a ruling and an oppressed class, and have nothing to offer the latter but the pious wish that the rulers be kind.

The social principles of Christianity leave the ecclesiastical settlement of all infamies to heaven, and approve thereby of the continuance of these infamies on earth.

The social principles of Christianity regard all the opportunities of life as instruments for original sin or other sorts of sin, or as trials which the Lord dispenses to the redeemed ones in his infinite wisdom.

The social principles of Christianity preach the virtue of humility, servility and self-degradation; in short, all the qualities of the scoundrel and the wretch, who do not want to be treated as equals, need their pride, their courage and their sense of independence even more than their bread.

The Christian principles were made for slaves and hypocrites, and the proletarians are revolutionists.

Let the Sistersville pulpit, together with all of his kind, smirk and whine and blaspheme as he may. Poison, labeled treacle, is and remains poison; the wolf in the skin of sheep is and remains an animal of rapine; and so does Mephisto, though in the cloak of saintliness, remain the Prince of Liars.

Deception can not last, nor can the people much longer be made to swallow capitalist Christianity for Justice, or to fail to recognize the modern Chaiphases, whatever livery these may masquerade in.

FRANK MACDONALD.

## POLITICAL and ECONOMIC.

The "Journal" of the Metal Polishers, etc., furnishes a pink of an illustration on "broadness" and on the season therefor. The illustration appears in an editorial note signed by the Editor, E. J. Lynch, who at the same time is the President of the Union.

Readers of THE PEOPLE will remember how, during last year's gubernatorial campaign in this State, with an S. L. P. full ticket in the field and Hanford at the head of it, this precious Lynch had an article declaring that there was no party in the field that the workingmen could vote for. As a sample of "narrowness" that utterance could surely pass muster. Here we had a tribune of the working people possessed of such exclusive tastes, views and convictions that nothing could suit him. He, on that occasion, surely out-narrowed the narrow.

Now, however, he comes out in favor of

a platform large enough for all reformers to stand on—Socialists, single taxers, free silverites, anti-expansionists, etc. Then we will push those reforms and try and interest other labor unions to do likewise. If that platform is Socialist, you can then count us as such, for principles, not party, we demand and shall have.

Whence this turn of heart? Whence this sudden revulsion in favor of a "broadness" that out-broadens the broad? Whence these loving sheep's eyes at Socialism, only last year condemned by him? Stand we before a miracle, a sort of Paul of Tarsus conversion?

Nay, nay, there is no miracle in the case, but a very matter of fact condition of things, to wit:

Lynch stands at the threshold of a convention of his Union. Of course, he is willing to sacrifice himself by submitting to re-election. But unfortunately for him, his organization swarms with equally self-sacrificing individuals. He foresees a contest of would-be martyrs. That's No. 1.

Again, Lynch knows that his Union is honeycombed with New Trade Unionists or Socialists; these having been a "boring from within" and getting ready to join the Alliance. That's No. 2.

Lynch knows also that this element, desirable as their votes be, is not numerous enough alone to elect him, even if they could be hoodwinked into his support, consequently he has a good word for single taxers too and for all other riff-raff.

That's all there is of the miracle. A labor fakir on the hunt for votes to keep him on the backs of the rank and file becomes the broadest thing on earth: he becomes broad enough to allow all "isms" to flock to his support.

The San Francisco, Cal., "Class Struggle" tells this excellent tale:

"They're all combined; isn't it h—l?", said one grocer to another in our hearing the other day. "What's combined?" we inquired. "The cracker companies," was the answer. "Well, we are glad of it," we replied. "Glad? why?" "Because events like that will soon open the eyes of your little fellows to the inevitable of capitalism, and then you may become amenable to teachings leading to something better."

"L'Asino," Socialist Illustrated, humorous paper of Rome, Italy, has, under the title "Architectural Morality," this dialogue between two millionaire, beetle-browed cads:

No. 1—"Thus you see, the 'basis' of my marriage is simply mutual affection."

No. 2—"Well, we are the real little millionaires that the daughter of the contractor brought to you as her dowry!"

No. 1—"That's merely the 'pedestal'."

No. 2—"And what about the peculiar relations that rumor wills it, your wife has with Colonel Mandrill?"

No. 1—"Pshaw! That's simply the 'core'."

Of such "pedestals" and "cornices" is the architecture of the family relations among the capitalist "pillars of Morality" here too.

The English translation of Karl Marx' "Eighteenth Brumaire," that some time ago ran through THE PEOPLE, is now to be had bound in an elegant volume of 78 pages, with Marx' picture as frontispiece. No Socialist, even though he be no student, and no student, even though he be no Socialist, can afford to be without it. Apply Labor News Co., 147 E. 23rd street, N. Y. City. Price, 25 cents.

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The social principles of Christianity have taunted the slavery of the ancient world,

## SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

## Address Delivered by Thomas Jacob, in Jersey City, N. J.

The thoughtful man must call the multiplicity of reforms which appear in increasing numbers, as an indication of the passing away of the pernicious economic system that has oppressed mankind so long. Not that such palliatives offer any solution of our present difficulties, but as harbingers of the dawn of economic liberty so earnestly looked for by every friend of humanity.

When the institution of chattel slavery was doomed, and its destruction only a question of time, its upholders, reading the hand writing on the wall, hastened to suggest all kinds of remedies and improvements short of its total abolition. If its legality was recognized they were quite willing to accept any reforms its enemies might suggest providing their property right in the colored human being were still acknowledged.

For generations all kinds of reforms were offered, to avoid the real issue, and if at all plausible, hailed with loud acclamations by the slaveholding class. But, like Banquo's ghost, the cry of abolition would not down; it grew louder and louder and finally culminated in the total destruction of slavery.

History repeats itself and in our own time we see the same tactics employed to bolster up the doomed capitalist system.

In the present movement for economic liberty the worker claims the right to control the means of production, and he insists that capital is a tool of labor, its offspring and product, and so vitally essential to its economic exercise that it cannot be carried on without it, and therefore, demands that it be made public property.

The capital-holding class, like their prototypes, the slave owners, are quite willing to give everything but what is asked. Free education, libraries, parks, public halls, picture galleries, charity organizations, churches, baths, excursions and a thousand and one other things are lavishly showered upon the people. And the more conciliatory, loudly proclaiming their liberality and fine sense of justice, go so far as to encourage trade unions, "public ownership" of railroads, municipal franchises, co-operation, and pose generally as the champions of down-trodden labor. But when their sincerity is put to the test by asking them to vote for the abolition of private property in capital, they flee in undisguised horror to the enemy's camp and become conspicuous, even among the most uncompromising foes of labor, by their bitter hostility and denunciation.

The same champions of the rights of the workingman, under great pressure, are even willing to concede bimetallism, income tax, free trade, single tax, or even municipal operation, if pushed to it, but to abolish property in capital, never! Such a step, they say, would lead to the destruction of society.

As the demand of the workers grows louder the number and variety of remedies introduced, to avoid meeting the real issue, constantly increase. Among the latest and most feebly pernicious productions of this kind is the work of James H. Hyslop, Professor of Logic and Ethics in Columbia University.

The Professor, according to the "Literary Digest" of May 20, seems to have taken his inspiration from the work of W. E. H. Lecky, who, some two years ago, attempted to prove that Democracy as a form of Government for modern society had demonstrated its failure and argued that the only alternative was a return to monarchy. The Professor, while admitting the imperfections of Democratic Government, does not propose to return to monarchy, but to "Revitalize Democracy so as to enable it to meet all the new necessities of society."

This he proposes to do by restricting the franchise, basing it on wealth as indicated by the amount of tax paid; extending the appointive and limiting the removal power of the executive; restricting the influence of Congress on appointments; establishing advisory commissions with power to shape and control legislation and by the establishment of a branch of Government, or court, for securing universal official responsibility, including both the executive and legislative functionaries, other than the electorate.

If this proposition differs from monarchy in anything, save the name, the difference seems to be simply in an increase in the number of those who shall be invested with despotic power. "Revitalized Democracy" as proposed by the professor would be the reverse of what its name implies. Instead of being instinct with life and energy, responding to the demands of a free and untrammeled electorate, it would be but a miserable slave bound hand and foot, with hardly vitality enough to breathe, its uncertain tenure of life always threatened by the iron grasp of capital, clutched around its throat, ready at any moment to shut off its feeble existence.

If this hybrid is "Revitalized" Democracy, what is Plutocracy? and how are we to regard the author, who while proclaiming loyalty to Democracy proposes to destroy the power of the people by restricting the franchise and subordinating their representatives to the will of a few persons endowed with despotic powers.

It may be that a logician can see the consistency of the Professor's course, but to the common mind, it suggests gross ignorance of the causes that lead to inefficiency and corruption in the administration of public affairs.

The Professor seems to perceive dimly that the evils of popular Government have some sort of connection with the condition of society, and thinks, by restricting the power of the people over it, the administration of public affairs will be improved.

This idea arises from a common impression that Governments can rise higher than their source, and be more moral than the governed. No matter how despotic a Government may be, it is but a reflex of dominant social conditions and when these are bad the Government must necessarily reflect its evils.

The ignorance, irresponsibility and corruption that mark the administration of public affairs are but the effects of a cause that will be found at the

very foundation of the present social system. An unjust discrimination, rewarding labor so unfairly, that the great mass barely receive the means of existence, while a few are overwhelmed with wealth and luxury, produces antagonistic classes constantly at war, straining every nerve to despise each other, the poor to become rich and the rich to increase their wealth, the whole resulting in a chaotic condition that tends to demoralize and degrade mankind instead of elevate and develop his higher characteristics.

A marked decadence in morals must necessarily attend such a state of affairs, but it is temporary, and only indicates the disintegrations of an old order of things incident to the evolution of a higher condition of civilization.

And these social evils, deeply rooted in a bad economic system, the Professor proposes to eradicate by tinkering with politics and politicians. Ye gods! he might as well try to prevent the shining of the sun by cutting off its shadow.

As long as an unscientific economic system forces the individual to war with his fellow for the means of

existence, a system so rigid and inflexible that one man cannot increase or retain his wealth without impoverishing another,

so long will we have chaos and warfare and corruption and incompetence in the administration of public affairs and nothing short of the abolition of such a system will bring any improvement in either Government or morals.

Adopt a broad economic system that protects every man in the possession and enjoyment of the wealth he produces and moral leprosy, with its attending corruption, will be a thing of the past. But this can never be until private property in the means of labor is abolished and all have an equal opportunity of using the most improved tools of production. Then, and not until then, will corruption and conflict cease and chaos be succeeded by order, honesty and peace, and Democracy be really revitalized.

Do you think that Prof. Hyslop and his fellow reformers will aid in securing these ends? If you do, you are sadly mistaken, for his work plainly indicates that he cannot bear to contemplate a state of society where the few no longer rule the many. He and all such reformers, no matter how honest their intentions, must be classed as enemies of human progress, and bitter and incessant war must be waged against them by the friends and advocates of economic liberty.

R. J.—Then you will be caught tight.

U. S.—How so?

B. J.—Because there isn't money enough in the country to buy out legally the present capitalists. Thus you will stand before the alternative of either taking forcible possession by confiscatory procedure, or to give up the plan of acquiring possession being unable to do so legally.

U. S.—Heavens! Are you there yet?

Why, man, this objection about "confiscation" has been flattened out flatter than pancake—

B. J.—Then you mean to confiscate?

U. S.—I shall leave that question aside for two reasons: First, because it has been amply answered before; but secondly, and above all, because the point you raise about "buying out" the capitalists is a peculiarly interesting one. I shall meet it with a broad-side-of-the-wedge answer: There will be no want of money to buy out your Messrs. Capitalists—

**"ME-TOOS."**

Also an Illustration of What Capitalist Nationalization Means.

Thou art neither hot nor cold; therefore will I spew thee out of my mouth.—(Bible.)

PITTSBURG, Pa.—Perhaps no higher compliment could be paid to the principles of the S. L. P. than the one fact that there are so many cheap, counterfeit, hounding imitations. No man ever attempts to counterfeit a counterfeit. It is always the true genuine article that is counterfeited; and this will apply to Socialism as well as to money and many other things. The clear-cut, clear philosophy of the principles of the S. L. P. in the form of the class struggle to-day commands admiration for many reasons.

Counterfeit Socialism and "Me-too" Socialists exist as a matter of course. Many of these self-styled "Socialists" are "independent" simply because they are not Socialists at all. We hear them say that every man has his own opinions of what constitutes Socialism. Yet had they anything like a well-grounded knowledge of sociology they could not remain ignorant of the fact that Socialism is not a matter of individual opinion at all. Modern Socialism is the consensus of opinion. Socialism is the visible form of the most advanced thought of the finest minds of our time, gathered from every quarter of the earth. It remained for the S. L. P. to gather up these priceless threads of thought coming from every point of the compass, and weave them into connected and consecutive form in the shape of the S. L. P., its platform and principles—decidedly the consensus of opinion.

Many of these "Me-too" Socialists do not connect themselves with the S. L. P. because it costs a dollar or two occasionally, and because the Party is too narrow, or too "intolerant," or too much "bossism," or too much this, that or the other—all of which only exists in their own imaginations. It is markedly characteristic of the superficial economist, the raw and unclarified, that he is always a fadist, a one idea man. Having casually noticed some one disease in the body politic, he straight-way jumps to the conclusion that a "Reform" of one item will cure the whole body of society. Hence your mere fadist, observing through an inverted telescope, sagely remarks that Socialism is "too narrow." But being a "Me-too" Socialist he straight-way becomes fired with a heroic ambition to "improve," to "broaden," to "Americanize." He is going to teach Socialism as it ought to be taught. Our years of a valuable experience, that has developed this consensus of opinion, cuts no figure whatever with him. And so we have "colonization" Socialists, and co-operative factory Socialists, and "one thing at a time" Socialists, and every beggarly little fad and utopian scheme with its little patent porous plaster for wooden legs has its "Socialists." To claim to be a Socialist is fast becoming equivalent to a claim of superiority, and so we have all kinds of "Me-toos," who are merely trading upon the principles and reputation of the S. L. P. They are merely fadists, hollow, shallow and superficial, and in most cases entirely hypocritical and deliberately misleading for criminal purposes.

The latest arrival of this kind of one idea fadists is the municipal ownership fellow of the Mayor Jones-Pingree type of hybrid. Take notice to this fact: the capitalist press notices these gentry more and more daily and weekly, simply gives them free advertising, and this is all done for a deliberate purpose, with a hope that clear class-conscious Socialism may be smothered in the utopian vagaries of counterfeit Socialism. This disorganized corporal's guard of Social Debauchery Socialists are not at all dangerous, only as they are able to mislead the unclarified and act as Delillahs for capitalism.

Under the present capitalistic system (i. e., the capitalist ownership of the land and tools of production, that inevitably produces wage slavery), it is exceedingly doubtful if the public control of any or all public services would bring any substantial benefits to the working class. One thing might just as well be clearly understood without going any further: and that is this fact: SOCIALISM AND CAPITALISM CANNOT EXIST SIDE BY SIDE. The same social system cannot support them both.

As for semi-Socialism, there is none. Semi-Socialism is only capitalism disguised. This Mayor Jones-Pingree so-called Socialism of "Municipal Services" implies acquisition by purchase by the bond scheme,—probably the most desirable (to the capitalist) of all forms of capitalism. Again, in the labor market competition tends to lower wages to the lowest point of subsistence; such old saws as "the standard of wages," "a living wage," "a fair day's wage for a fair day's work," etc., have all become antiquated chestnuts. Coupling all this with the fact that the capitalist class holds the key to the economic situation in the shape of land and tools of production, they will inevitably find ways and means to more than neutralize all the expected benefits. Every reduction in the living expenses of the workingman only opens the way for a reduction of wages under the present system. Capitalism will see to it that the capitalist class gets more than their share of resultant benefits out of Jones-Pingree "Socialism." All this twaddle about "Municipal Socialism" only reveals the fact that these people have (as usual) succeeded in getting the cart in front of the horse. Socialism will not come in streaks and spots. Municipalities will not nor can not be socialized until capitalism is destroyed. The ownership of the tools of production is the root of capitalism. Trimming of a twig here and there only stimulates the root. We must socialize causes (the tool of production) and effects (one of which is municipal misgovernment) will disappear. International Socialism will as a matter of course mean and include the Socialism of the nation, the State, the city. The tool of production is the foundation, and the only one. Other foundation hath not Socialism than this; and therefore is not Socialism. Their counterfeit Socialists are the sneaking tools of capitalism. They are not clear, they are not class-conscious, they do not recognize or admit the class struggle, they are unsound in their economics, they

are many of them dishonest and openly advocate dishonest schemes; they are to be watched, exposed, and guarded against; they call themselves "Socialist," and yet condemn the S. L. P. and its tactics and openly compound and dicker with capitalistic parties for a Juda's price.

One of the best illustrations of the silliness of this capitalistic Socialism has been furnished by the Government purchase of the slack water system on the Monongahela River. Up until two years ago this slack water system was the property of a corporation, who charged stiff tollage rates and made a good thing out of it. After many years of agitation, the Government bought it out at an exorbitant price, and it is now "free." What has been the results, and particularly to the working people?

First, the wages and other economic conditions of the 40,000 miners along its banks have not been affected a particle by the "one step at a time socializing" of the Monongahela system; it has never even been mentioned in wage or other disputes.

Second, it has had absolutely no effect whatever upon the price of coal: the "down river" workman gets his coal no cheaper; the selling price of labor and selling price of product has not been affected at all.

Third, to the employees of the lockage system it is quite another matter. Under the corporation, of course, they were capitalistic employees and were treated as such. When the system became Government property, of course, the employees becomes Government employees; and when we call to mind the existence of a national eight-hour law applying to Government employees, this specimen of "one thing at a time Socialism" becomes interesting. The business of the first ten months of the "free" system exceeded any previous year, yet the number of employees remained the same as before; wages were not increased; and the hours of labor were 11 for the day turn and 13 for the night turn,—just as under the corporation. The employees inform me that the traffic on the river is constantly increasing, yet only at lock No. 1 extra men are employed, only occasionally. Again, the employees at No. 1, and the other lower locks where they are nearly always constantly busy, sometimes not getting time to eat during the entire turn, get the same pay as up at No. 9 where they hardly ever "lock" more than three or four times a day.

This specimen of "Socialism" has proven reactionary, apparently a step backward. No one has been benefited except a few capitalists. Not one workingman has been benefited, while many have been seriously injured. Verily the little finger of capitalistic Government is thicker than the lobs of private capitalism.

The same social atmosphere will not sustain both Socialism and Capitalism.

H. A. GOFF.

**Ohio Convention.**

(Continued from page 1)

event in the history of labor, and by such action alone can the workers emancipate themselves; and believing this action of the miners is certain to be followed by other large bodies of organized labor, and it heralds the near coming of the day where organization will be supplanted by political action along the whole line of unionism, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, That we delegates assembled in the State Convention of the S. L. P. representing wage earners, and being members of trades unions of our respective crafts, do everything within our power to educate our fellow craftsmen to emulate the action of our fellow wage slaves West of the Mississippi and use every effort honorable to have the different conventions, sub-districts, district and national, to adopt similar resolutions.

**RESOLUTION ON THE PROPOSED NON-PARTISAN "LABOR CONVENTION."**

WHEREAS, Trades Unions of Ohio have been called upon to participate in a convention at Columbus on the first day of June, 1899, ostensibly to place an independent State ticket in the political field this fall, and such meeting is advertised to be addressed by capitalistic politicians upon whom the working class cannot rely; and

WHEREAS, "Independent" movements always have had, and always will have, a mushroom growth and then suddenly collapse; and

WHEREAS, The "non-partisanship" so loudly pleaded for is an utter impossibility by reason of the conflicting interests of the capitalist and wage working classes; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Socialist Labor Party of Ohio does hereby condemn all brands of political movements labeled "independent" and "non-partisan" as farcical and ineffective in the cause of the exploited; and appeals to the industrial class to rise in their might, and, as a class, conscious of its rights and power, move in a solid phalanx upon the trenches of the otherwise invincible capitalist class, demanding its unconditional surrender.

**CT. CONVENTION**

(Continued from page 1)

elected at a regular business meeting of the Section at least one month prior to the day of the convention.

The Agitation Committee made the following recommendations which were also adopted:

1. That a fair be arranged for the purpose of raising a DAILY PEOPLE fund, and Sections of New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island and Massachusetts to co-operate.

2. The State Committee to publish a State Manual giving advice to voters on the election laws, and also showing the Party's strength.

3. That an Organizer be put in the field for a number of months to agitate and organize for the Party.

4. That all Sections start speakers' clubs with the object in view of doing more work than heretofore.

5. That whenever there are three Sections in any county, these Sections be ordered to organize a County Committee which will direct agitation within said county.

New Haven was chosen the seat of the State Committee and New Britain the town where the next State convention is to be held.

F. SERER, Secretary.

**CORRESPONDENCE.**

[Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under an assumed name, will attach such name to their communication, besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized.]

**That's D. P. Mass-State Convention.**

To THE PEOPLE.—The "Volksszeitung" will doubtless be pleased to learn that it has secured an ally in its position on the tax question. So far the evidence produced in support of that position had the very great merit of having nothing whatever to do with the matter in hand. This of course is not sufficient to make their position sure, but when the S. D. P. A. comes forward in its defense in Massachusetts and defends itself of the same stand, then, and not till then, do we realize with what a wall of adamant the "Volksszeitung" has surrounded itself. The convention was discussing the subject of an income tax plank, and one Peles arose and opposed it. "All taxes are bad," he said, "and therefore it would be better to have no taxes at all." The "Volksszeitung" was asked whether he knew what the "meeting" had done, answered: "No"; being thereupon informed of what had happened, he said: "Had I known that, I would not have voted."

None of those present at the alleged special meeting can say that they did not know of them to keep a Party organization, and two read, to my knowledge, the "New Yorker Volksszeitung." —G. L.

For the enlightenment of our readers the following explanation is necessary: On last May 30, the "New Yorker Volksszeitung" published at the head of a front-page column, in bourgeois lead and with flaming head-lines, a "resolution" denunciatory of the National Executive, the Party organs, Party tactics, etc., etc.—all in the approved style of such productions—and purporting to have been "extensively debated" in, and then "unanimously adopted" by Section Milford, Conn.

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The main purpose of the publication in these columns of the Organizer's statement, and of the explanations hereby attached thereto, is to convey, via the English readers, this important information to those deluded German comrades whose source of information would otherwise be limited to the "Volksszeitung." —Ed. THE PEOPLE.

When I started out before the convention ended I was stopped by a gentleman with that purely "American movement" known as "So 'elp me Chinamen, it will." He introduced me to many a prominent and a few less prominent, and ill-timed resolvers, and led me into the secret of his own identity. He was a friend of mine, having on one occasion contradicted me. That might establish a close friendship, but it by no means made him a blood relation of mine. We discussed amicably for five seconds the opposition which the S. D. P. was receiving, or was supposed to receive, from the Socialists, then he told me very loudly that he was a mind-solder. He asserted that THE PEOPLE was a "tarn war." He averred that Le Leon was a bigot and scoundrel. He declared that Vogt should be hung, and that there were some men who were just as good Socialists as he, who would yet hang him. He asserted that truth, honesty, decent courage, simplicity, manliness, broadmindedness, were all absent from the S. L. P. He swore that malice, lying, inventiveness, a propensity to use the dagger between the short ribs, falsehood, defamation of good men, narrowness, vileness, backwoodsness in winning victories, repulsiveness, cursh, insolent, maddening cruelty were our predominant characteristics. He shouted that the S. L. P. members "walked around thinking themselves more noteworthy than the famous William tell-him-be-anathema, or, as he is better known, 'Billie Be-Damned.'

"Fy fy," Comrade Corcoran ejaculated, "you wouldn't abuse us would you?"

When he violently announced that he would not accept a few words calculated to soothe things, but they aroused the Debates to anger, my friend shook his fist and dodged behind his own crowd.

"I rud, for von ffn cen, ser-mash dat not thrower's face."

Then like a child he shed weeps. Large tears ran down his furrowed cheeks making the furrow deeper, forced to deform his face in order to do so. The others chattered in with odd remarks, and one Haverhillite said with as much irony in his voice as his anger would allow:

"It was Berry did all this. He was the cause of two parties being left in the field! You come to Haverhill and we'll let you know what we think of Berry. Berry is not the man we think he is."

Long live the Socialist Republic!

W. S. DALTON, Organizer.

Spokane, Wash., May 31.

It is plainly to be seen that you thoroughly appreciate the joke."

My weeping friend moaned that Socialism could never come in our time while leaders were pulling us around in the S. L. P. There was no difference between the two parties excepting in tactics, and when we were ready to accept His Royal Friend James, Carter, Seab, Help, Gordon, and many other "good men" then we would come together, and the olive branch would be extended. That is what I told him. The only thing which I added in regard to olive branches was that it would be a good club with which we would beat a little harder, and then we would be stronger. Then the heart of the whole S. D. P. fever was exposed. If they could do anything to set the S. L. P. back, if they could destroy its Sections, if they could blacken its members, then would they understand that the S. D. P. had not existed in vain.

The convention was on good behaviour, but there was considerable friction between Carey and Putney as to which owned it. James with his usual oratorical prose of "clanging factory gates," "heart-rending sobs," "emaciated, tottering children," "my own crushed and blighted boyhood," dashed out home-made jokes to keep the brothers in good humor. The story about that factory girl that it didn't clang after jail was often as he was on to trick with two of working very much. All his life he has been an old woman idling in the sun, and the rays from good natured tollers have held body and meanness together in him. That support of men like Carey is one of the taxes the "Volksszeitung" has overlooked, or if we take its position on the trade union question it is one which it wishes to see settled.

The S. D. P. insulted the workers of Boston by allowing Gordon to speak on the Common. In classifying human beings Fred G. R. must be set down as a dribble. He is one of the worst products of a system perfect in its ability to produce crooks. Very few men are more expert in yielding to temptation than he.

F. M. Stoneham, Mass., May 30.

He answered in a long speech that the present local was no good, and was not faithful to the National Union, and by organizing a new local, the old would be bettered as to the charter, that Kurzenknafe set about.

Daly was asked, "What about the prize of \$10 given for forming a new local? To whom will it belong?"

"Why?" replied he, "I have formed several locals and got the money."

At this a time when he was Business Agent and getting paid for doing just that work, he was doing the work and not you; and the money will belong to you," said he. After some arguing the Joint Committee dropped the matter and waited for developments.

Meanwhile the moulderites wondered what was to become of them so they joined the I. O. Of America to prevent the foundation of an opposition union. About January last the contract—the only one in New York—between the union and the J. L. Motts Iron Works had to be renewed.

Daly promised many important improved shop regulations, particularly that the firm shall not discharge any worker cause.

In case of sickness of work the work on hand shall be divided among all employees, etc.

After many interviews and consultations among the "leaders," a special meeting was called on the other side of Harlem River at 6 p. m., where Daly's report would be made and acted upon. In that meeting he read a letter from the firm which stated that the firm, the declined to concede the "improved" shop regulations. A demand was made for the reading of the old agreement, so as to see whether it would not be better to have no agreement.

But it could not be found; nobody knew where it was.

Daly was then instructed, on his own advice, to renew the old agreement.

It is worth while to note at this time that if there is a contract in existence, then it is of the same character as so vividly described by Hickox in his "Tragedy Pages."

Since the middle of February a great change has taken place in J. L. Motts

shop: the brass finishers being displaced by the introduction of machines, now operated by youngsters at \$3 to \$5 a week. V. C. Davis was asked what could be done in the matter, he excused himself on the plea of lack of time to thoroughly consider the question.

There is another "labor leader" in this city whom the members of the Metal Polishers' Buffers', Platers' and Brass Workers' International Union look upon with wonder. His name is J. E. Fitzgerald, First Vice-President of the International Union. He is a "Socialist-too," but not a "bigoted, narrow-minded one, like those of the S. L. P." He is a great friend of "Little Billie" Bryan, Henry George, Debs, Croker, and municipal ownership. Shouts about the "labor of the world," etc., etc., are broad-minded and a "journal" expansionist.

Being asked why he, as First Vice-President, did not call Daly to task for manufacturing strikes at Michel & Van's, said he would do so as soon as possible, but has not—yet. The truth is he dare not, as Daly makes it worth Daly's time to strike him. Daly, by giving him jobs as committee man, etc., etc., said jobs paying \$5 a day and more.

Such people as Daly and Fitzroy preach to the working class "no politics in the union," "no class-consciousness"; "make good use of your ballot"; "organize and pay dues, as it is only then can an organization be kept up"; "fight capital with capital," etc.

Such fellow brass workers I would say: You feel the necessity for a true union of the trade; that the necessity exists; the fact is indisputable; if you want to better your condition, then organize on clear-cut class-conscious lines, under the banner of the Socialist Union, and Labor Alliance. You are tired of being led about by stock and bust stories of how much the pure and simple union will benefit you, if you are tired of being robbed by political heelers of large sums of money, if you are tired of having yourselves used as dues-paying cattle for black-hearted crews as ever settled an organization, if you are tired of being led about by the "bosses" of the "philosophical" variety. If you are tired of being "Philosophical Anarchist," whether of the "bomb-throwing" or the "philosophical," whether of the "rose-water" or the "dirty water" variety. If you come across a "Philosophical Anarchist," you need not be alarmed: they are quite inoffensive. But if you come across a "Socialist" Philosophical Anarchist, you had better be on your guard. These specimens are either crooks or crazy.

